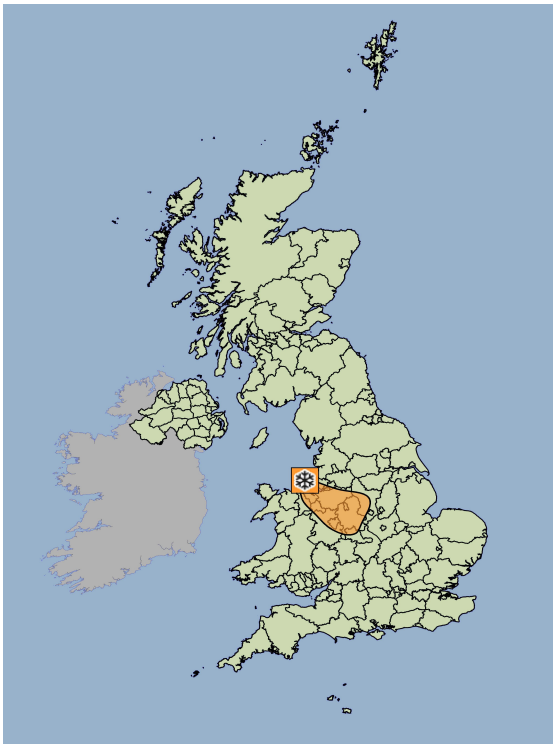
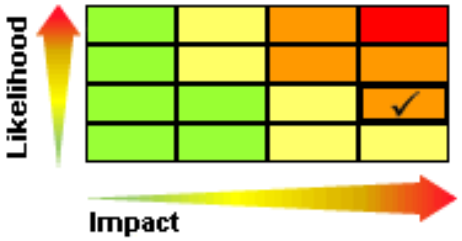
National Severe Weather Warning Service





Chief Forecasters Assessment
An active frontal system will push northwards during Thursday, increasingly coming into contact with the block of unusually cold air in place across central and northern Britain, the North Sea and Scandinavia. The front will then become slow-moving during Friday, potentially affecting a broad swathe of central Britain from some 24 to 36 hours. Yellow warnings are in force for large areas on Friday and Saturday. It is possible that this Amber warning may be extended, perhaps to cover other areas later on Friday.

The Met Office have issued an **Amber Warning** of **Snow**

Valid from **00:05 on Fri, 22nd Mar 2013** until **14:00 on Fri, 22nd Mar 2013**

A band of heavy rain spreading northwards across the UK will turn increasingly to snow from the early hours of Friday morning, with some heavy and persistent snowfall likely to develop during Friday. High ground may see snow accumulations of 20-40 cm in places, with drifting and blizzard conditions due to the strong to gale force southeasterly winds. At lower levels, there is a chance that parts of the north Midlands, north east Wales and north west England may see 10-15 cm of snow.

The public should be aware of the potential for severe disruption, particularly to transport and to power supplies during Friday morning. Further snow is expected later on Friday - for which a Yellow warning has been issued.

For more details please go to:
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/warnings

Issued by the Met Office at 12:29 on Thu, 21st Mar 2013

For enquiries regarding this warning please contact the Met Office Weather Desk
Phone: 0870 900 0100 Fax: 0870 900 5050 E-mail: enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk
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For the following areas

- East Midlands
  - Derbyshire
- North West England
  - Cheshire East
  - Cheshire West and Chester
  - Halton
  - Merseyside
  - Warrington
- Wales
  - Denbighshire
  - Flintshire
  - Wrexham
- West Midlands
  - Shropshire
  - Staffordshire
  - Stoke-on-Trent
  - Telford and Wrekin
  - West Midlands Conurbation

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